

# College-Level German Language

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## Description of the Examination

The College-Level German Language Examination is designed to measure knowledge and ability equivalent to that of students who have completed two to four semesters of college German language study. The examination focuses on skills typically achieved from the end of the first year through the second year of college study; material taught during both years is incorporated into a single exam.

The exam is 90 minutes long and is administered in two separately timed sections:

- a 30-minute Listening Section of approximately 50 questions, presented on a tape;
- a 60-minute Reading Section of approximately 80 questions, presented in a test book.

The two sections are weighted so that they contribute equally to the total score. Subscores are reported for the two sections; however, they are computed independently. An individual's total score, therefore, is not necessarily the average of the two subscores. Most colleges that award credit for the College-Level German Language Examination award either two or four semesters of credit, depending on the student's scores on the exam. The subscores are not intended to be used to award credit separately for the Listening and Reading, but colleges may require that both scores be above a certain level to ensure that credit is not awarded to a student who is deficient in either of these skills.

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## Knowledge and Skills Required

Questions on the College-Level German Language Examination require candidates to demonstrate the abilities listed on the following page.

### Approximate Percent of Examination

<b>40%</b>	<b>Section I: Listening</b>
24%	Understanding of spoken language through short stimuli or everyday situations
16%	Ability to understand the language as spoken by native speakers in longer dialogues and narratives
<b>60%</b>	<b>Section II: Reading</b>
15%	Vocabulary mastery: meaning of words and idiomatic expressions in the context of printed sentences and situations
20%	Grammatical control: ability to identify usage that is structurally correct and appropriate
25%	Reading comprehension: ability to read and understand texts representative of various styles and levels of difficulty

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## **Study Resources**

Familiarize yourself thoroughly with the contents of at least one introductory level college German textbook, which you can find in most college bookstores. In addition to studying basic vocabulary, you should understand and be able to apply the grammatical principles that make up the language. To improve your reading comprehension, read passages from textbooks, short magazine or newspaper articles, and other printed material of your choice. To improve your listening comprehension, seek opportunities to hear the language spoken by native speakers and to converse with native speakers. If you have opportunities to join organizations with German-speaking members, to attend German movies, or to listen to German-language radio broadcasts, take advantage of them. The Internet is another resource you could explore.